

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-19 have been cancelled without prejudice.

New claims 20-38 replace claims 11-19. New claims 20-38 are based on original claims 1-10 and find support in the specification and the figures as filed, introducing no new matter. New claims 20-38 are drafted to recite the invention as originally claimed and to overcome all the pending objections and rejections.

The Official Action objected to the specification, stating that the specification fails to provide section headings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.77(b).

In response, the specification has been amended to obviate the objection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

The Official Action objected to claims 11, 12, 14, 18, and 19 as being indefinite.

In response, claims 11-19 have been cancelled as stated above. It is respectfully submitted that the cancellation of claims 11-19 and the introduction of new claims 20-38 render the objection moot.

The Official Action rejected claims 11-19 under 35 USC 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 9-17 of co-pending Application No. 10/577,150. The Official Action states

that the double-patenting rejection may be overcome by canceling or amending the conflicting claims so they are no longer coextensive in scope.

As was kindly suggested by the Primary Examiner, new claims 20-38 replace claims 11-19 so they are no longer co-extensive.

No substantive rejections are pending.

Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the new claims are earnestly solicited.

From the foregoing, it will be apparent that applicants have fully responded to the November 28, 2007 Official Action and that the claims as presented are patentable. In view of this, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims, as presented, and their early passage to issue.

In order to expedite the prosecution of this case, it is requested that the Examiner telephone the attorney for applicants at the number set forth below if the Examiner is of the opinion that further discussion of this case would be helpful.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional
fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Benoit Castel, Reg. No. 35,041
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

BC/lk